Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: SM-66

Name: MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended __X____

Criteria: ____A ____B ____C ____D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G __None

Comments: _____

_____

_____

Reviewer, OPS: _Anne E. Bruder_____ Date: __3 April 2001____

Reviewer, NR Program: __Peter E. Kurtze_____ Date: __3 April 2001____

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Historic Bridge Inventory
Maryland State Highway Administration
Maryland Historical Trust

MHT Number SM-616

SHA Bridge No. 18001 **Name:** MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek

Location:
Street/Road Name and Number: MD 5 (Waldorf Leonardtown Road)

City/Town: Helen **Vicinity** X

County: St. Mary's

Ownership: X State _County _Municipal _Other

This bridge projects over: _Road _Railway X Water _Land

Is the bridge located within a designated district: _yes X no

_NR listed district _NR determined eligible district
_locally designated _other
Name of District

Bridge Type:

_Timber Bridge
_Beam Bridge _Truss-Covered _Trestle
_Timber-and-Concrete

_Stone Arch

_Metal Truss

_Movable Bridge
_Swing _Bascule Single Leaf _Bascule Multiple Leaf
_Vertical Lift _Retractile _Pontoon

_Metal Girder
_Rolled Girder _Rolled Girder Concrete Encased
_Plate Girder _Plate Girder Concrete Encased

_Metal Suspension

_Metal Arch

_Metal Cantilever

X Concrete
X Concrete Arch _Concrete Slab _Concrete Beam
_Rigid Frame

_Other Type Name_____

SM-616

Describe Setting:

Bridge 18001 carries MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek in St. Mary's County. MD 5 runs east-west over the southern flowing St. Clement's Creek. The area immediately adjacent to the bridge has light residential development.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge 18001 is a single-span filled concrete arch bridge. The length of the bridge is 24 feet and it has a clear span of 20 feet. There is a clear roadway width of 43 feet, with an overall bridge width of 45 feet 10 inches. The spandrel wall has a 2-inch cove molding around the arch and a 1-inch molding on the spandrel wall. The spandrel walls are approximately 5-feet high and 10-feet wide. The bridge has a rise of approximately 7 feet 10 inches from springline to the crown. The bridge has a single guardrail attached to the bridge with metal posts. According to a 1997 inspection report, the bridge is in good condition with a sufficiency rating of 87.7.

The concrete arch has random vertical cracks and some light moisture stains. There are several small patched areas throughout the arch. The southeast construction joint has a small spall with reinforcement bars exposed and rusted. The spandrel walls have a few fine vertical cracks. The head walls have fine vertical cracks. The north head wall interior has a spall near its center measuring 6 inches by 6 inches by 2 inches deep.

Discuss Major Alterations:

In 1952 the original open style parapets were removed in order to widen the bridge. On both the upstream and downstream sides, the bridge was widened by 9 feet 4 inches. The arch ring was matched and molding strips were mirrored. The 1952 widening included the addition of contemporary abutment wingwalls.

When Built: 1928, 1952
Why Built: Expansion of road system in St. Mary's County
Who Built: Southern Maryland Construction Company, Baltimore MD
Who Designed: State Roads Commission
Why Altered: Increased traffic load.
Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign? Yes, this bridge was built by the State Roads Commission as part of its lateral road development.

<u>Surveyor Analysis:</u>
This bridge may have NR significance for association with:
_A Events _Person
_C Engineering/Architectural

This bridge was determined not eligible by the Interagency Review Committee in June 1996.

Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?

The development of lateral roads within the state of Maryland was funded by a gas tax. One-and-one-half cents out of the total tax of 4 cents per gallon was set aside for the use by the counties for the construction of new lateral roads or those roads connected with or feeding into a main highway. The continued expansion and improvement of the road between Morganza and the surrounding county qualified for lateral road funds. Bridge 18001 replaced a pre-existing structure on the same alignment. A temporary timber structure was built to divert traffic.

Is the bridge located in an area that may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from historic and visual character of the possible district?

No, this bridge is not located in an area that is eligible for historic designation.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

No, this bridge is not a significant example of its type. The widening and the removal of the parapets have created a structure that no longer represents a concrete arch bridge designed by the State Roads Commission.

Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?

No, this bridge does retain integrity of its character defining elements. The original spandrel walls have been covered over with the new arch section. The original barrel has been widened and encased. The wingwalls and the abutments are either gone or compromised. The original parapets were replaced.

Is this bridge a significant example of the work of the manufacturer, designer and/or engineer?

No, this bridge is not a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer, or engineer.

Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made and why?

No, this bridge should not be given further study.

Bibliography:

County inspection/bridge files _____ **SHA inspection/bridge files** X
Other (list):

Johnson, Arthur Newhall
1899 The Present Condition of Maryland Highways. In *Report on the Highways of Maryland.* Maryland Geological Survey, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore.

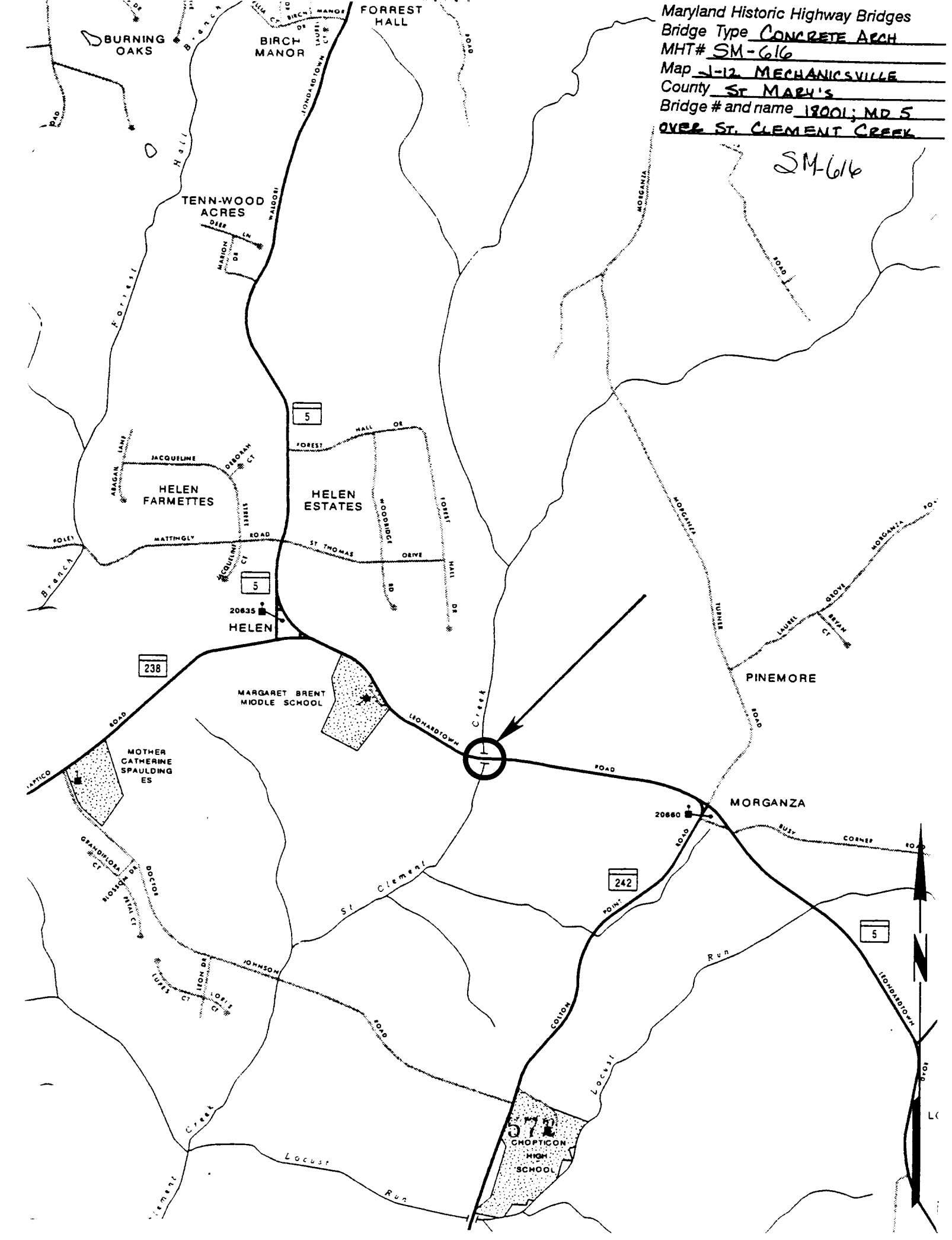
P.A.C. Spero & Company and Louis Berger & Associates
1995 Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland: 1631-1960: Historic Context Report. Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland State Department of Transportation, Baltimore, Maryland.

State Roads Commission
1958 *A History of Road Building in Maryland.* State Roads Commission of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland.

Tyrrell, H. Grattan
1909 *Concrete Bridges and Culverts for Both Railroads and Highways.* The Myron C. Clark Publishing Company, Chicago and New York.

SURVEYOR:

Date bridge recorded December 1997
Name of surveyor Wallace, Montgomery & Associates / P.A.C. Spero & Company
Organization/Address P.A.C. Spero & Co., 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21204
Phone number (410) 296-1635 **FAX number** (410) 296-1670


Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type CONCRETE ARCH
MHT# SM-616
Map 1-12 MECHANICSVILLE
County ST MARY'S
Bridge # and name 18001; MD 5
OVER ST. CLEMENT CREEK
SM-616
BURNING OAKS
BIRCH MANOR
FORREST HALL
TENN-WOOD ACRES
HELEN FARMETTES
HELEN ESTATES
HELEN
20635
PINEMORE
MORGANZA
20660
MARGARET BRENT MIDDLE SCHOOL
MOTHER CATHERINE SPAULDING ES
CHOPTICON HIGH SCHOOL
5
238
242
MATTINGLY ROAD
ST THOMAS DRIVE
LEONARDTOWN ROAD
JOHNSON ROAD
POINT LOOKOUT ROAD
COLTON POINT ROAD
BUSY CORNER ROAD
TURNER ROAD
MORGANZA ROAD
HALL DR
FOREST DR
WOODBRIDGE RD
JACQUELINE
DEBORAH CT
ABAGAIL LANE
DEER LN
MARION DR
GRANDIFLORA CT
BLOSSOM DR
PETAL CT
DOCTOR
LOBIA CT
LAUREL GROVE
BRYAN CT
St Clement Creek
Locust Run
N

1. SM-616
2. MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek
3. St. Mary's Co., MD
4. Wallace, Montgomery & Assoc.
5. 12/97
6. MD SHPO
7. Elevation looking upstream
8. 1 of 4


1952

1. SM-616
2. MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek
3. St Mary's Co., MD
4. Wallace, Montgomery & Assoc.
5. 12/97
6. MD SHPO
7. Elevation looking downstream
8. 2 of 4

1. SM-616
2. MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek
3. St. Mary's Co., MD
4. Wallace, Montgomery & Assoc.
5. 12/97
6. MD SHPO
7. Looking South
8. 3 of 4

1. SM-616
2. MD 5 over St. Clement's Creek
3. St. Mary's Co., MD
4. Wallace, Montgomery & Assoc.
5. 12/97
6. MD SHPO
7. Looking North
8. 4 of 4